



Daniel Jeremy Silver Collection Digitization Project

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MS-4850: Daniel Jeremy Silver Papers, 1972-1993.

Series IV: Writings and Publications, 1952-1992, undated.

Sub-series B: Other Writings, 1952-1992, undated.

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Research notes, Song of Songs, notes, undated.

Love comes naturally to men and women. ~~They~~ When a young man and a young girl feel attracted to one another a new and wonderful change takes place in both of them. ^{Life takes} ~~They~~ on new meaning and brightness for their young people. They love for the other and feel these emotions and all secret sentiments seem more keen than ever before.

The Bible book with ^{any phase of our life} ~~the~~ it shows us how we should live. It understands us when we make mistakes. It comforts us when we are in pain or in grief. It contains also a kind of poetry which vivifies and undeniably captures our feelings when we are in love.

This Book is called "The Song of Songs". Its Hebrew title Shir ha Shirim means the song songs. We call the book "The Song of Songs" because an ancient editor prefaced these poems by the words "The song of Songs which is Solomon's". By this he probably meant that these were the finest song which Solomon had written. There is a tradition recorded in the Book of Kings that Solomon was a talented poet, the author of 1005 poems.

Actually we have no reason to believe Solomon wrote these poems. The ancient ^{David} ~~said~~ that these original words were written by some famous person in the hope that they would receive a wider audience. So was probably the case with the unknown authors or authors of these lines.

It is hard always to tell where each poem ends and another begins. The headings are not always adequate guides in this respect and the best guide is simply to read along until you feel that the tone and mood has changed.

It really does not make too much diff. where each poem ends and another begins. It only asks mainly to open about feeling & emotion rather than coming thought. To understand poetry is to capture its mood. You should read it for its images - for the general impression it gives with you.

You will never two young people much in love putting to one another their feelings - their delight in each other's being.

Some interpreters have tried to read the whole set of poems as a play in verse. ^{There is} ~~There is~~ no conclusive proof of this view but

The drama by itself is an interesting one. The belief that there were two young people in the Palestinian valley. They were married and about to be married. The boy was a good looking shepherd and the girl was beautiful & virtuous.

One day a great King passed by and saw the young girl's great beauty and fell in love with her. He decided to bring her back with him to Jerusalem to show that his wealth and power and to try to win her affection. She was forced to go with him but though he promised her anything her heart could want in rich and servants she would not give up her love for the shepherd and remained ^{faithful} to him. Finally, the King gave up and returned her to her valley where the two young people were married.

The writer intended this story to say that it is really an allegory (a ^{God} simple story which hides a deeper truth). The ~~King~~ Shepherd is really ~~God~~.

The girl is really David. The King is really the personification of all worldly temptation. David, therefore, is pictured as resisting all worldly temptation and remaining faithful to God.

Some say, this allegory is ~~not~~ ^{represented} in the Bible. These love poems to be included in the Bible. This can hardly be true since the Jews write their heavily marked respect for love had no reason to be afraid of including love-songs poems in the Bible — in the Book of Psalms all up.

Some Advice on Reading Love Poems